

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

March 10, 2005      LB 53, 65, 68, 86, 116, 333, 389A, 573, 664A  
690, 697  
LR 15

chaired by Senator Raikes, reports LB 690 to General File with committee amendments attached. Transportation Committee, chaired by Senator Baker, reports LB 65, LB 68, LB 86 to General File; LB 697 to General File with amendments; LB 333, indefinitely postponed; and LR 15 reported back to the Legislature for further consideration; all those signed by Senator Baker as Chair. New A bills: Senator Mines offers LB 389A (read title); LB 664A, by Senator Cudaback, (read title). Priority bill designations: Senator Friend to LB 116; Senator Janssen, LB 573, as one of the General Affairs committee priority bills. And an announcement, Mr. President: the Revenue Committee will have an Executive Session today at 1:30 in Room 1524; Revenue at 1:30 this afternoon. That's all that I have, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal pages 798-800.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. (Visitors announced.) Members, it is approaching 11:00. We will now go to the 11:00 item, motion to override gubernatorial veto. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Schimek would move that LB 53 become law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor.

SENATOR CUDABACK: And members, if there is any time remaining we will go...after we dispense with this item, we will go to LB...back to LB 675. Senator Schimek, to open on your motion.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I didn't file this motion lightly, but the motion is part of an institutionalized process that maintains the checks and balances and assures some equality among our three branches of government. The Governor has tremendous power and he can veto what 49 have done as a body, but the Legislature's ability to override has that equalizing function. Now I have to tell you that I think, if my memory is correct, this is the second time that I have ever offered a motion to override a veto. The first one was on the Women's Health Initiative, oh, about five or six years ago, and frankly, I didn't know if I had the votes to override. Of course, you never know whether you have the votes override, but I could count 23 votes for sure at that point. And I think the discussion on the floor actually convinced people that we needed to override that veto, and we